

Planning, Constructing and Operating an Offsite High Density Collections Storage Rental Facility The Cabin Branch Experience



Welcome

- Ft. Meade and Cabin Branch
 - Ft: Meade a purpose-built, environmentally optimized storage facility
 - Cool: 50 degrees F; 30% rh modules with cold storage rooms at 35 and 25 degres, 30%rh
 - Reduntant systems; 100+ year retention
 - Today's focus is on Cabin Branch, developed for cost efficiency and flexibility using same high density storage plan as Ft. Meade, meeting security standards for special collections, and meeting or exceedsing conventional stacks preservation environment



Costs – Cost Ratios: Building

- Able to build out Cabin Branch at app. 50% of the per item cost of Ft Meade
- Some minimum size of project to evoke contractor interest
 - That means some minimum size of project necessary to evoke contractor interest
 - Construction costs that scale: larger the facility, lower the cost per item



Costs – Cost Ratios: Operating

- Operating costs are approximately the same for both
 - Staff is the largest cost of operations, regardless of the specialized HVAC and other systems
 - Make sure your project plan includes forecasts for major maintenance
- Since operating costs are almost the same, gap narrows over time = 50% initially; 65% over time



Costs – Caveats on Cost

- We have given relative costs, rather than specific dollar amounts – why?
 - Construction costs vary greatly by geographic region and market conditions
 - Over 18 years in our region, costs have varied +/- 20% per square foot depending on market conditions10% 20% on a multi-million dollar project is a big cost incentive for planning storage investments in advance rather than building at a point of urgent need



Overview

- Presentation will focus on three broad areas related to the Cabin Branch rental facility
 - Planning
 - Constructing
 - Operating
- Full partner cooperation, consideration and planning in each of these areas is critical to success



Cabin Branch External View





Planning – Identifying the Need

- Obtain an interim rental facility to bridge the gap between acquisition and permanent storage
- Facility to store processed and unprocessed collections
- Secure location
- Multi-year leases
- Budget friendly



Planning – Assembling the Team

- Most critical factor in success. All parties need to work as a team
 - Identifying the disciplines
 - Selecting representatives



Planning – Establishing the Requirements

- Location
 - A site within an hour of Capitol Hill
 - A shell or yet-to-be-constructed building
 - Tall structure
 - Well insulated
 - Super flat floor
- Critical is to achieve environmental conditions that will ensure the collections are housed properly



Planning – Environmental Requirements

- Avoid storage conditions that create immediate collection risks
 - High RH / biological growth
 - Cycling between RH extremes
 - Potential leaks based in HVAC unit or piping

- Identify achievable temperature/RH target that does not accelerate the rate of deterioration
 - Preservation Index ≥ 45

https://www.eclimatenotebook.com/fundamentals_nl.php



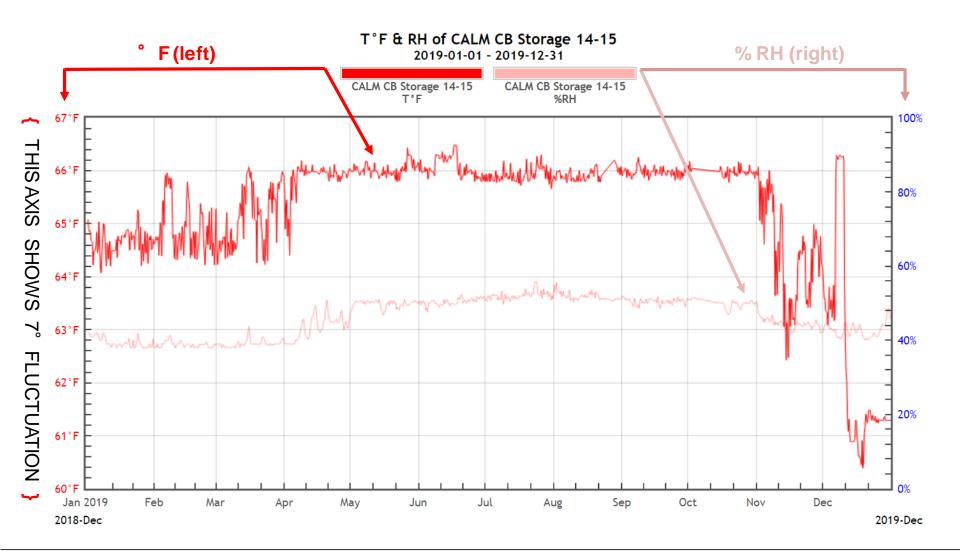
Planning – Environmental Requirements

 Humid summer— high dew point limiting factor in Washington DC area

- Identify achievable temperature/RH targets that do not accelerate the rate of deterioration
 - Temperature below 70°when possible
 - RH between 35% 55% with gradual seasonal variation



One year Trend 2019: TWPI 58





Environmental Requirements: Lessons

- Consulting architect and engineers do not typically understand wide RH allowance
- https://ipisustainability.org/
- Preservation team must assess risk based on collection type, anticipated handling and collection use
- Be practical. Consider what you have observed about collection condition in known environments when setting targets

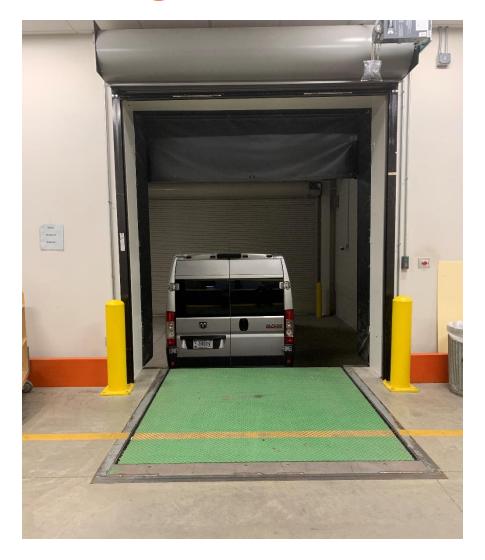


Planning – Facility Compartmentalization

- Separating workspaces from collections storage areas
- Separate Materials Handling Equipment (MHE) charging areas
- Recessed/enclosed loading dock
- Separate areas within the collections storage area
 - Both pallet racking and processed collections shelving are separate



Enclosed Loading Dock



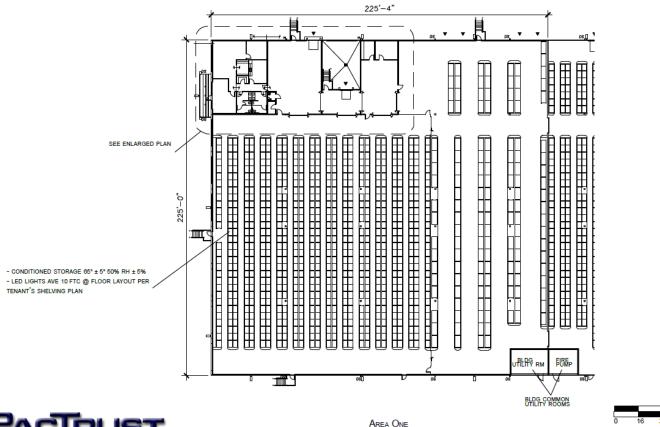


External View of Drive-In Loading Dock





Cabin Branch – Interior Layout







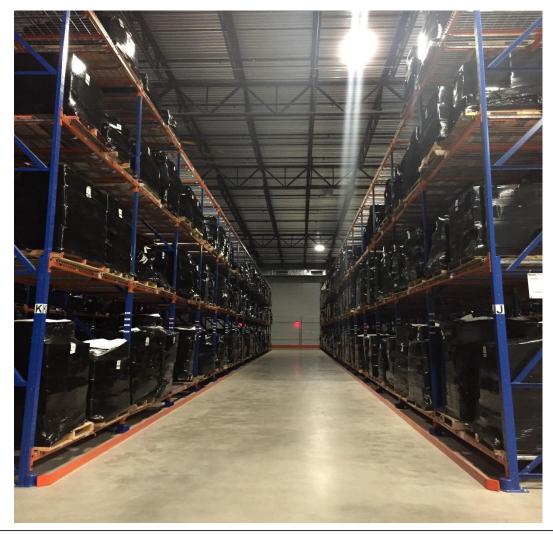






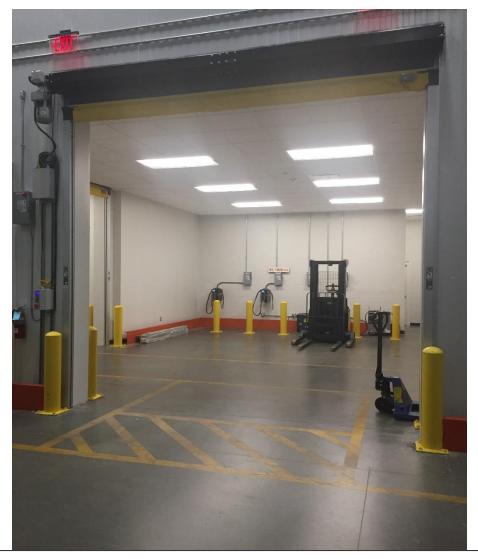
CABIN BRANCH DISTRIBUTION CENTER A1 FLOOR PLAN @ AOC/ LOC LANDOVER, MD

Cabin Branch – Pallet Racking for Unprocessed Collections





Cabin Branch - MHE Charging Area





Cabin Branch – MHE



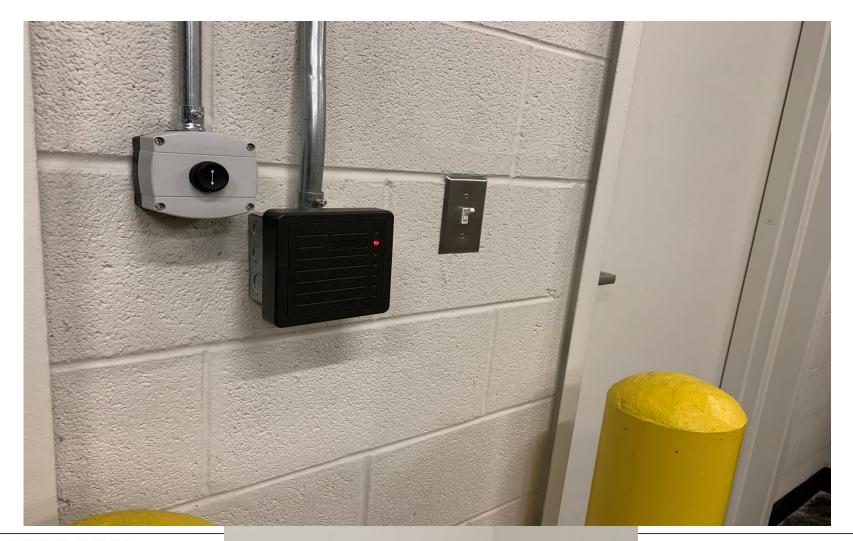


Planning - Other

- Security electronic and physical
 - Electronic access controls and video surveillance
 - Zoned alarmed areas
- Materials Handling Equipment (MHE) the facility dictates the type(s)
- Owner/owner agent that is flexible and willing to work closely with the Library to meet our needs



Card Reader – Controlled Access





Surveillance Cameras





Construction

- Identifying the property
- Articulating the need and requirements
- Design
- Establishing a game plan
 - Develop a partnership
 - Establish the team LC, design firm, construction firm, owner/owner representative, Architect of the Capitol
 - Develop a shared purpose
 - Front-loaded meetings of the team. Then, frequent communication.
 - Establish meeting schedule
 - Site visits



Operations

- For processed collections, the Library employs the Harvard model
 - High bay shelving
 - All books stored in boxes by size
 - Library uses 12 different box sizes 5 different heights; 5
 different widths; and 2 different lengths



Cabin Branch – Typical Book Storage Aisle





Cabin Branch - Typical Shelf Arrangement





Operations – Inventory Control and Tracking

- Inventory Management
- Two different databases: ILS and LAS
 - The Library of Congress uses the Voyager Integrated Library
 System (ILS)
 - Warehouse Management System for processed collections –
 we employ the Library Archival System (LAS)
- Barcodes are the word of the day at Cabin Branch
 - Every book has a unique barcode
 - Every box has a unique barcode
 - Every shelf has a unique barcode



Shelf Layout



Item Barcode Linked to Box Barcode

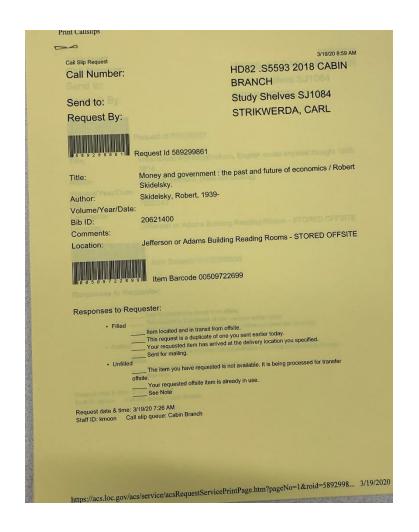




Operations - Service

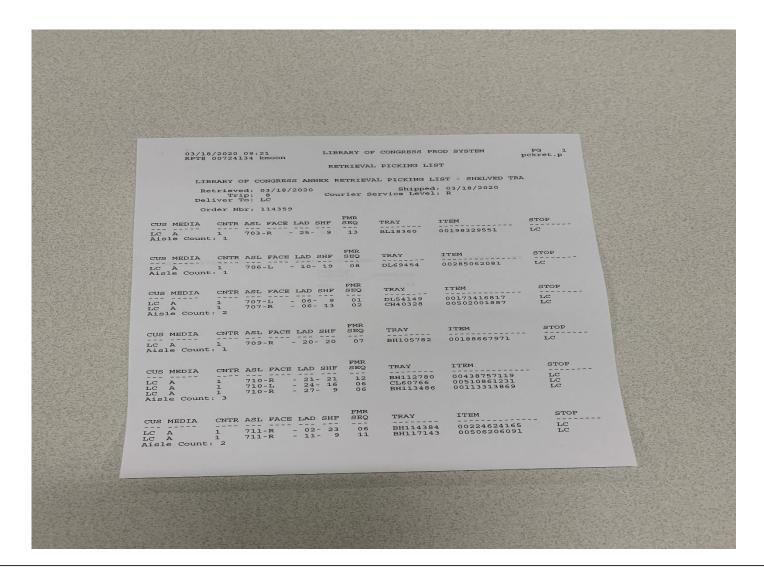
- Staffing
 - Number
 - Level
- Requests
 - Generated through the locally developed Automated Call Slip (ACS)
 - Request prints at Cabin Branch on a request slip including the item barcode
 - Item barcode entered into the LAS, which then tells which box, on which shelf, in which aisle, etc.
 - Twice daily delivery







Tabular Retrieval Pick List





Operations – Additional Preservation Considerations for Cabin Branch

- Item condition review prior to transfer
- Controlled access and use depending on item condition
- Over-the-road transport using an air conditioned truck
- Specially designed transport containers to ensure item stabilization during transit
- Specially designed carts appropriate for the items
 transported within the facility and over-the-road transit



Over the Road Cart





Operations – Specially Designed Cart





Questions and Comments

https://www.loc.gov/rr/askalib/ask-preserv.html



